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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
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DOGMI  
MINERALS PROGRAM  
FILE COPY

November 16, 1989

TO: File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Specialist *HHS*

RE: Site Inspection, Clinton Pit, Interpace, M/049/006, Utah  
County, Utah

I visited the Clinton Pit site on November 15, 1989 to inspect the ongoing reclamation of that site. The operator has regraded the site and was in the process of drill seeding during my inspection. I met with Mr. Pat Patterson of Interpace and Mr. Grant Smith, a reclamation contractor from Lehi performing the drill seeding. Mr. Patterson was on site to oversee the drilling program.

The contractor was to drill seed and then fertilize 17 acres of regraded surface at the site. When I arrived, approximately 2 - 3 acres had been drill seeded.

It is my opinion that this seeding program will not be successful. Apparently, the ground surface had developed a hardened crust since earlier grading this 1989. The contractor was seeding directly into the crust with a regular shoe type drill, or one used typically for crop seeding. The drill was not breaking the crust adequately to allow for good soil-seed contact. Most of the seed was dropping on hardened ground. Using this type of drill would be successful if the soil had been disced or harrowed first. When drilling into hardened ground, a more heavy duty drill or rangeland drill should be used.

Another problem which was occurring was that the seeder was clogging and not feeding seed out at an even rate. The seed mix was apparently causing a problem for this particular drill seeder. Typically, a specific type of drill seeder will be used to accommodate different seed mixtures. Again, this seeder was designed for homogeneous crop seeding.

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The contractor was using the seed mixture recommended by the Division. Seed was to be drilled at 15 - 20 lbs/acre (clogging will be a major factor in this application).

The contractor did indicate to me, that he had done this type of work before and felt that the outcome would be successful.

My recommendation, at this point, is to wait and evaluate the success next summer. It is, however, my feeling that the work will have to be redone next fall.

jb  
cc: George Beamer, Interpace  
Lowell Braxton  
Wayne Hedberg  
MN4/193-194